

Your Name: *Laura Farr*

Form for Evaluating Internet Information Resources

(NOTE: This form is not for evaluating productivity software/sites, simulation games/sites, or educational software/games/sites)

1. **URL of Web page being evaluated:** <http://www.wikihow.com/Be-an-Effective-Public-Speaker>
2. **Primary use (students, teacher, parent, other,...):** *Students*

Questions 3-10 are about the site that is hosting your page.

3. **Truncate the URL of the Web page. What is the domain name of the Web site?**
<http://www.wikihow.com>
4. **What is the name of Web site?** *wikihow*
5. **What is the purpose or goal of this Web site?** *"We're trying to help everyone on the planet learn how to do anything. Join us."*
6. **What organization or individual created this site?** *Powered by Mediawiki. Founded by Jack Herrick.*
7. **What affiliations/purpose/audience do they have that might create a built-in bias toward the information? What is that bias?** (Note: every site has bias, you just have to be aware of what that bias is and be prepared to defend it or present information from other viewpoints.) *This site allows for anyone to edit the information found throughout the site. People volunteer to write and edit the information of this site. This allows for whatever bias that one author might have. Because all of the information comes from varied sources, one type of bias is hard to come by. This may possibly be a good thing because by having multiple authors with multiple biases, more than one point of view or bias is being represented.*
8. **What other types of organizations link to this site?** (Using the Google search engine, type *link:* and the Web site address (example: *link:www.website.com*)) *informational sites, social networking sites, and news articles.*
9. **Is there a way to provide feedback on the Web site and create an exchange with the author or Web site manager?** *There are contact numbers and emails for three people on this site; one person who answers general questions and is there to help, one person who is in charge of press inquiries, and one who is the community liaison. They also give an address that people can send mail to.*

Questions 10-12 are about the specific page that has information for your project/unit:

10. **Who is the author of the page and does that person have valid credentials to present this information (the creator of the site is not always the author of a page within the site)?** *This site doesn't say who the author is but it does say the names of some of the people who have edited the site and how many people have made edits.*
11. **What other references are cited for the information presented?** *No references cited.*

12. **How old is the material on the page? Is it current or outdated (copyright year is not the same as the last update)?** *No date is given.*
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Final evaluation questions:

13. **Are there ads linked to the page or the site that might make this page inappropriate for your audience? Are the ads “sticky” or static? If there are no ads, how is this Web site paid for (where do they get their money)?** *Sticky ads. It specifically stated that the ads are based off of my browsing activity and it goes on to tell more about what “interest based advertising” is.*
14. **Is there other content on the site that appears affiliated with the information you’ve selected that might make this page inappropriate** (a Web site with great tutorials on how to make good movies with sections on how to make a documentary, a biography, an infomercial, etc. might also have a tutorial on making an inappropriate movie)? *This site can be seen as inappropriate due to the fact that there could be some “how to’s” about inappropriate things.*
15. **How helpful is this site/page to you? Does it have the information you need and feel confident using?** *I really liked the tips and information that was provided by this site. It also included images, which help make it more attractive to students.*
16. **Describe how this Web site/page might be used in your project/unit:** *This site would be used to help students consider how to become a better presenter.*
17. **Reviewing your answers above, is this a good page/site to use for your project/unit? Why or why not?** (NOTE: Some questions above may not apply to your page; there is no rule as to how many “correct” answers are needed for a page to be good or what constitutes a “bad” page. You just need to be able to justify your choices and the information above can provide good support.) *I feel like this site would be very useful for what I want to use it for (becoming an effective presenter). However, I’m worried that if students wander around the site they could come across an article that is inappropriate. That is the only major downfall that I see that goes along with using this site.*